GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Home Department – S.M.W.P.No.1/2020 IN RE: CONTAGION OF COVID 19 VIRUS IN PRISONS - Precautionary measures taken in Prisons in view of **Covid-2019 Corona Virus** scenario – Directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India – Constitution of High Power Committee - Orders - Issued.

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HOME (PAROLES & HRC) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 327 Dated: 26-03-2020
Read:-

Letter from the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, AP., Vijayawada, Lr.No. Letter No. Jud-2/40/2020, dated: 23-03-2020.

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In the reference read above, the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada has informed that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Suo Motu WP (Civil) No.1/2020 in their orders dated 23-03-2020 has directed as under:

> **We direct that each State/Union Territory shall constitute a High Powered Committee comprising of (i) Chairman of the State Legal Services Committee, (ii) the Principal Secretary (Home/Prison) by whatever designation is known as, (ii) Director General of Prison(s), to determine which class of prisoners can be released on parole or an interim bail for such period as may be thought appropriate. For instance, the State/Union Territory could consider the release of prisoners who have been convicted or are under trial for offences for which prescribed punishment is up to 7 years or less, with or without fine and the prisoner has been convicted for a lesser number of years than the maximum.**
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> **It is made clear that we leave it open for the High Powered Committee to determine the category of prisoners who should be released as aforesaid, depending upon the nature of offence, the number of years to which he or she has been sentenced or the severity of the offence with which he/she is charged with and is facing trial or any other relevant factor, which the Committee may consider appropriate.**

2. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada has requested the Government to issue necessary orders for constitution of High Powered Committee comprising of (i) Chairman of the State Legal Services Committee, (ii) the Principal Secretary, Home (Prisons) Department, (iii) Director General of Prisons, to determine which class of prisoners can be released on parole or an interim bail for such period as may be thought appropriate.

3. Government after careful examination, hereby constitute High Powered Committee with the following members to determine which class of prisoners can be released on parole or an interim bail for such period as may be thought appropriate.

i. The Chairman of the State Legal Services Committee, Andhra Pradesh.
ii. The Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department, Andhra Pradesh.
iii. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh.

4. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada is requested to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**KUMAR VISHWAJEET**
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To
The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, AP., Vijayawada.
The Chairman of the State Legal Services Committee, Andhra Pradesh.
The Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department.
OSD/ P.S. to Hon'ble Home Minister.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER